

Cofc

Dr. Sheng-Guo Wang, Professor
Dept. of Engineering Technology & Dept. of Electrical & Computer Engineering
University of North Carolina at Charlotte
9201 University City Boulevard, Charlotte, NC 28223-0001, USA
(704) 687-3265 • Fax: (704) 687-6499 • swang@uncc.edu
www.coe.uncc.edu/~swang/ • www.et.uncc.edu/faculty/swang.html

2516 Radrick Ln
Charlotte, NC 28262-4443

April 9, 2007

Attention: Certificate of Corrections Branch
Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: **Certificate of Correction for Patent US 7,197,898 with Issue Date 4-3-2007 and Application No. 09/989,799**

Dear Honorable Commissioner:

I hereby submit the filled Form PTO SB 44, as the attached for my Patent US 7,197,898 with Issue Date 4-3-2007 and the Application Number 09/989,799.

Since these are PTO typographical errors, therefore no fee charge is involved.

The errors are as follows:

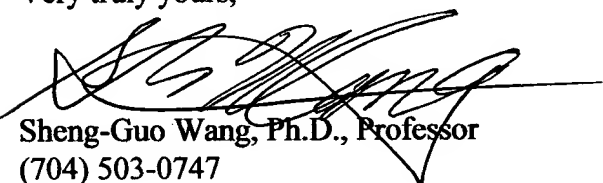
1. Column 1, after line 22 and before line 23, there is a huge Missing of Whole Page 2 in the application, i.e., *BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION -- 1. Field of the Invention* [0001]; **2. Description of the Related Art** [0002] ~ [0004];
2. Column 3, line 54, "U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,333,610" should read "U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,443,610".

I respectfully request to reprint a clean, correct and full "original" patent 7,197,898 with the official cover page and the Honorable Under Secretary of Commerce Jon Dudas' signature after the correction. Thank you very much.

I respectfully suggest and request a procedure/chance for inventor to have a pre-read before patent is issued in order to avoid any publication errors, similar to a paper proof-read step in journal publications for authors. In March when I respectfully suggested and requested it to the Office of Patent Publication (OPP), the front desk people told me to request it through the Commissioner for Patents. Today, the Director of the OPP told me that she was considering it.

Again, thank you very much for your consideration of my patent application and its patent.

Very truly yours,


Sheng-Guo Wang, Ph.D., Professor
(704) 503-0747

Enclosures: Form PTO SB 44 1 page
Page 2 of Application 09/989,799 1 page
Self-Addressed Mail Card

Certificate
APR 16 2007
of Correction

APR 16 2007

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Page 1 of 1

PATENT NO. : 7,197,898
APPLICATION NO.: 09,989,799
ISSUE DATE : 04-03-2007
INVENTOR(S) : Sheng-Guo Wang

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

1. Column 1, after line 22 and before line 23, should insert the following paragraphs:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to optical fibers and a process for optical fiber drawing.

2. Description of the Related Art

Optical fiber drawing process is an important period of optical fiber manufacturing.

A conventional drawing process of optical fiber is as follows. A completed preform is fed slowly into a furnace where the preform end is heated to about 2000°C and soften. The soften glass forms a globule falling down from the furnace, through the other stages of the drawing process and onto a take-up spool. The stages thereof are outer diameter measurement, fiber cooling stage, fiber coating stage, coating concentricity measurement, curing stage, coating diameter measurement, fiber drawing capstans, proof test and winding on take-up spool. The feeding speed depends on the furnace design, preform diameter and draw speed. The optical fiber which has just left the furnace and is remaining intact is called "bare fiber". Usually, the required fiber diameter is controlled by varying the fiber draw speed while keeping furnace temperature and preform feeding speed constant. This is accomplished by monitoring the fiber diameter immediately as it comes out of the furnace by using one of several types of non-contacting methods, such as laser light scattering (James J. Refi, Fiber optic Cable – A Light Guide). Then, the controller uses this output signal of diameter measurement to automatically adjust the speed of the drawing capstans to obtain the correct output diameter.

The fiber cools down after leaving the diameter monitor. There may be a cooling device or just a natural cooling stage. Then, it has a protective plastic coating applied in order to preserve strength, to isolate itself from external force and to avoid microbending losses. There are two coating stages: one inner soft primary coating and another outer hard secondary coating. After coating applicator, a monitor measures concentricity which is another important specification. Then, the fiber passes a curing furnace/lamp. After coating and curing stages, a second diameter monitor is used to measure coated fiber diameter, i.e., to provide coating diameter measurement.

2. Column 3, line 54, "U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,333,610" should read "U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,443,610".

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

Prof. Sheng-Guo Wang
2516 Radrick Ln.
Charlotte, NC 28262

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

APR 16 2007

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

0001 The present invention relates to optical fibers and a process for optical fiber drawing.

2. Description of the Related Art

0002 Optical fiber drawing process is an important period of optical fiber manufacturing.

0003 A conventional drawing process of optical fiber is as follows. A completed preform is fed slowly into a furnace where the preform end is heated to about 2000°C and soften. The soften glass forms a globule falling down from the furnace, through the other stages of the drawing process and onto a take-up spool. The stages thereof are outer diameter measurement, fiber cooling stage, fiber coating stage, coating concentricity measurement, curing stage, coating diameter measurement, fiber drawing capstans, proof test and winding on take-up spool. The feeding speed depends on the furnace design, preform diameter and draw speed. The optical fiber which has just left the furnace and is remaining intact is called "bare fiber". Usually, the required fiber diameter is controlled by varying the fiber draw speed while keeping furnace temperature and preform feeding speed constant. This is accomplished by monitoring the fiber diameter immediately as it comes out of the furnace by using one of several types of non-contacting methods, such as laser light scattering (James J. Refi, *Fiber optic Cable – A Light Guide*). Then, the controller uses this output signal of diameter measurement to automatically adjust the speed of the drawing capstans to obtain the correct output diameter.

0004 The fiber cools down after leaving the diameter monitor. There may be a cooling device or just a natural cooling stage. Then, it has a protective plastic coating applied in order to preserve strength, to isolate itself from external force and to avoid microbending losses. There are two coating stages: one inner soft primary coating and another outer hard secondary coating. After coating applicator, a monitor measures concentricity which is another important specification. Then, the fiber passes a curing furnace/lamp. After coating and curing stages, a second diameter monitor is used to measure coated fiber diameter, i.e., to provide coating diameter measurement.